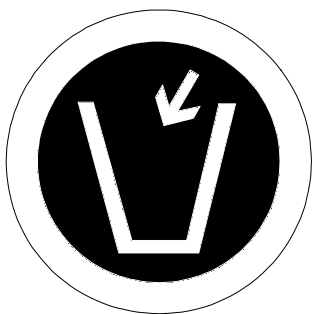




Solid Waste and Contamination Concerns — Guidelines for Communities after a Disaster

Hazardous Debris



WASTE DISPOSAL

- Notify local emergency government officials. Depending upon the hazard potential of released materials, teams of trained hazardous materials specialists may be called on site immediately. Control and containment of hazardous materials will be the first priority. Appropriate state and federal authorities should be notified as well.
- Identify areas of hazardous materials and potential contamination. Facility site plans are good sources of public information for any public, agricultural or commercial facilities that house significant quantities of hazardous substances. Required by the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986, these plans are filed on-site and with the local fire department, Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) and State Emergency Response Board (SERB). Plans identify community hazards ranging from underground fuel tanks and pesticide storage areas to toxic cleaning solvents, manufacturing wastes and explosives.
- Evacuate any areas where hazardous materials may cause harm. If necessary, rope off areas to keep people out and place warning signs signifying the danger.
- Contact appropriate state agencies, such as the Department of Natural Resources and Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. They offer technical guidance on clean-up regulations and options for managing hazardous materials. Options may include landfilling, incineration or chemical treatment.
- Segregate hazardous from nonhazardous substances in all levels of clean-up. Stress the importance of segregating materials to residents in home clean-up activities, as well as recovering businesses, manufacturers and farmers. Consult state officials to determine local hazardous material collection options.

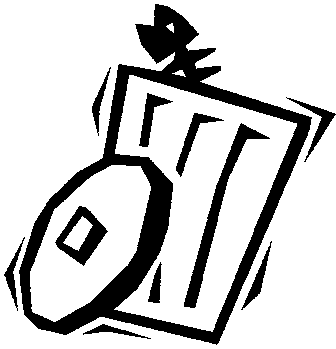
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Nonhazardous Debris

County landfills and other licensed solid waste disposal facilities are the logical sites for nonhazardous solid waste after a disaster. However, in some cases, special one-time disposal sites may be available for communities or individuals.

Procedures for nonhazardous debris collection after a disaster differ for residential, commercial and rural areas. Consult with regulatory officials regarding collection requirements and disposal options. Be sure you obtain necessary regulatory approvals before taking action.



Additional resources

- Your local emergency government office
- Department of Natural Resources
- Federal Emergency Management Agency
- Your County Extension Office